

234 - 149 BC

CATO

Marcus Porcius Cato of Tusculum  
was founder of Latin prose literature. A soldier-  
statesman of extensive military and administrative  
experience, he was in his public career and  
his thinking the exponent of the austere  
ancient Roman virtues and the spokesman  
of ultraconservative reaction against  
the rising tide of Hellenism. He exhibited  
the traditional Roman practicality and  
dogmatism. He alone among the historians



of his generation wrote his work in Latin.